## **REMARKS**

## **Allowed Claims**

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 have been allowed.

## Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1, 2 and 5 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Nakamura et al. ("Dislocation structure in compressed  $\alpha$  -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> single crystals").

Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been cancelled and the rejection has become moot.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111 Application No. 10/511,684 Attorney Docket No. 042794

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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